# CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

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| **Title of publication:** | dog-b-003-1.jpg |
| **Other known title(s):** | Not stated |
| **OFLC ref:** | 1001788.011 |
| **Medium:** | Computer Image File |
| **Publisher:** | Not stated |
| **Country of origin:** | Not stated |
| **Language:** | English |
| **Applicant:** | Commissioner of Police |
| **Classification:** | Objectionable. |
| **Descriptive note:** | None |
| **Display conditions:** | None |
| **Date of entry in Register:** | 15 December 2010 |
| **Date of direction to issue a label:** | No direction to issue a label has been issued |

**Summary of reasons for decision:**

The computer image file contains a photograph of a woman engaged in sexual contact with a dog, promoting a website of similar material. For those with a sexual interest in bestiality, the publication serves to legitimise and encourage that interest. The image is therefore deemed objectionable under s3(2)(e) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 because it promotes and supports bestiality.

The Classification Office has considered the effects of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 on the application of the classification criteria. The classification of this publication interferes with freedom of expression, but this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention that publications falling under s3(2) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 are deemed to be objectionable. The classification is also a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression that reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to limit the availability of publications that promote and support bestiality.